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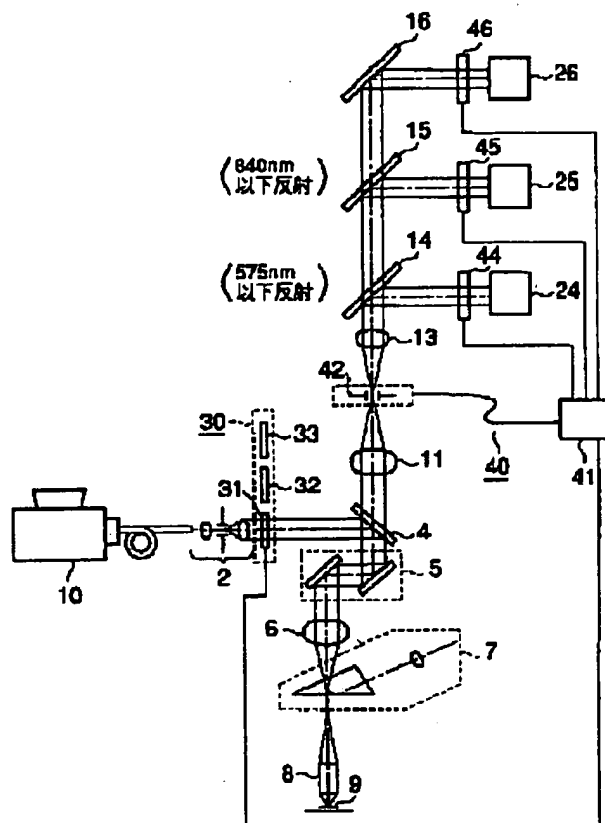
APPLICATION DATE : 23-03-98
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APPLICANT : OLYMPUS OPTICAL CO LTD;

INVENTOR : HAYASHI NAOKI;

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TITLE : SCANNING TYPE LASER
MICROSCOPE



ABSTRACT : PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide a laser microscope capable of obtaining images of optimum confocal effect and brightness for respective fluorescence wavelengths.

SOLUTION: This microscope is provided with a laser beam source 10 for emitting plural laser beams with different wavelengths (for instance, 488 nm, 530 nm and 648 nm), a laser beam selection means 30 for selecting the laser beam of a specified wavelength from the laser beams of respective wavelengths emitted from the source 10, a means for irradiating a sample 9 with the laser beam selected by the selection means 30 through a laser scanning means 5, a confocal pinhole 42 installed at a position conjugate to the surface of the sample 9 so as to pass through fluorescence emitted by the sample 9 excited by the laser beam irradiated by the means and switchable to an aperture diameter corresponding to the wavelength of the fluorescence, and a controller 41 for changing over the aperture diameter of the confocal pinhole 42 matched with the wavelength (520 nm, 615 nm and 670 nm) of the fluorescence.

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